Secrets. H-27—100,000—21-5-48.

REVENUE (1948) Department.

MS SERIES

G.O. No. 3004

Dated 15—12—1948.

[Despatch Abstract.]

VILLAGES - Names - Changes - General Question - Papers recorded

Revenue Department.

NOTE FOR THE INFORMAL MEETING OF THE HON'BLE MINISTERS.

Villages etc. - Names - Change.

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In a few cases where the original names of certain towns and villages had become corrupted through the influence of the English language, the names were ordered to be changed. In certain other cases, the names of villages have also been ordered to be changed at the request of the villagers who considered these names to be inappropriate. A list of villages etc. whose names have been changed so far is appended.

2. In June last H.M.(Agri.) wanted certain names of places in Malabar to be changed. In that connection he minuted as follows:-

"The anglicised names of places in Malabar district should also be given their original names in the Government records hereafter. Thus Malabar District should be called Malayalam district. Calicut should be called Kozhikode. Tellicherry should be called Thalasseri, Palghat to be called Palakad, Westhill to be called Warakkal etc. The Collector of Malabar may be asked to find out the names of the places so anglicised and send up their correct local names."

K.M.
25-6-48.

Petitions are also being received from many quarters from individuals, Municipal Councils, Panchayat Boards and Associations for changes in places names. It was suggested in this connection that a Committee may be appointed to examine the names of places which required changing.

3. In the meanwhile the Government of India have observed as ~~following~~ follows recently:-

"The disadvantages of making changes in the names of spellings which have been in common use for hundreds of years would be readily appreciated. However if such changes were limited to a few instances, the difficulties that may arise may be inconsequential, but if the tendency to alter the spellings of names were to become widespread the difficulties would be great and, therefore, the tendency should be discouraged." In view of this observation the file was again circulated to H.M.(L.R), H.M.(Edn), H. H.M.(Agri) and H.Pr. for orders as to (i) whether it is desirable to appoint the Committee referred to in para 2 above or even to issue a direction to the Collector of Malabar as proposed by H.M.(Agri) or (ii) whether it would be considered sufficient to pass orders on specific cases of names brought to the notice of the Government.

H.M.(Edn), H.M.(Agri) and H.Pr. have minuted as as follows:--

"H.Pr. may decide".

T.S.A.
18-7-48.

"Certain names of towns like Vijayavada and Tiruchirapalli have already been changed. It is enough only if very prominent names are corrected like headquarters of districts and divisions, municipalities etc. A committee will be cumbersome and would go into every name. It is

ıough if we select the prominent names to be changed. ıyhow I don't mind discussion at a Cabinet meeting".

K.M.
20-7-48.

'lacex before the informal meeting of Ministers."

O.P.R.
6-8-48.

4. It is therefore for orders -

(i) whether a Committee may be appointed to examine ıd suggest changes in the names of places which required ıanging or

(ii) whether it is desirable to restrict such ıanges generally to a limited number of cases where ıe corruption due to the association with the English ıguage is indubitable or xxxxx strongly unpopular.

(iii) what policy will be generally followed in ıis matter.

Intd. C.S.R.
2/9/48.

VILLAGE--CHANGE OF NAMES.

evious Name.	Present Name.
lvalur	Kilvelur
iyali	Sirkali
ruvidamarudur	Tiruvidaimarudur
iruturaipundi	Tiruturaipundi
opputhurai	Topputhurai
gapatam	Negapattinam
riapatnam	Kariyapattinam
irampatnam	Adirampattinam
atandavapuram	Anandatandavapuram
rmadevi	Cheranmahadevi
njeveram	Kancheepuram
kshandarkovil	Bicchandarkovil
ichinopoly	Tiruchirapalli
nakshipuram	Meenatchipuram
ahadanapuram	Mahadanapuram
zwada	Vijayavada
elamangalam	Jayamangalam
chin	Fort Cochin.
yavaram	Mayuram
canada	Kakinada
lore.	Eluru
stna (District & River)	Krishna
dakayapakkam	Kottakayapakkam
tam (Suffix in some villages)	Pattinam (Tamil) Patnam (Telugu)

*The change is only in the Tamil spelling.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Subject:

CHANGE OF NAMES - Copy of letter from Rev. Swami Pranavananda, Calcutta to Government - Suggestions - Report - Submitted.

L.Dis.W.4505/48. Station: Madras. Dated 5th October 1948.

From

P.M.Jayarajan Esq., Bar-at-Law, I.C.S., Secretary, Board of Revenue.

S.Ranganathan Esq., O.B.E., I.C.S., Commissioner of Land Revenue, and Commercial Taxes.

Kudva Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., ssioner of Land Revenue, Excise and Prohibition.

V.S.Hejmadi Esq., I.C.S., Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Separate Revenue.

Read: 1. From the Government Revenue Department Endorsement 22034C/48-1, dated 22-4-1948.
2. From Collector, E.Godavari L.Dis.9233/48, dated 28-6-48.
3. From Collector, Madras, L.Dis.5883/48, dated 20-7-48.
4. From the Collector of Chingleput, L.Dis.8515/48, dated 13-7-48.
5. From the Collector of Vizagapatam D.Dis.7985/48, dated 15-7-48.
6. From the Collector of West Godavari L.Dis.6860/48, dated 11-8-48.
7. From the Collector of Krishna L.Dis.10619/48, dated 17-8-48.
8. From the Collector of Bellary L.Dis.4921/48, dated 26-8-48.

L.DIS:

The Board consulted the Collectors of Vizagapatam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Bellary, Madras and Chingleput. A gist of their reports is submitted to the Government.

2. The Board is of opinion that changing the names of a few important towns and districts should satisfy the wishes of the public for a demonstration on attaining independence. But even this should be done after consulting a committee consisting of professors of History, local leaders and M.L.As. as suggested by the Collector of West Godavari. The Board is also of the view that this tendency should not be overdone and that places of historical interest should not have their names altered unrecognisably just because they are of English origin for if this is done there is bound to be considerable confusion and inconvenience to the public. On this ground the names like Fort St. George and St. Thomas Mount may remain as they are for the present.

3. The Commissioner of Excise and Prohibition however considers that as the existing names of some of the towns are a distortion of their real names, the proposal of Rev. Swami Pranavananda need not be categorically opposed. Offering his opinion on the specific suggestions of the Swamiji the Member considers that as the Government have already changed the name of Vizag, it is not desirable to change it again, the Chicacole may be changed into Srikakulam and Rajahmundry as Rajahmahendravaram, Innespet into Veeresalingapuram as suggested by the Collector of East Godavari. As for giving a part of the Madras City the name "Chennapuri" the matter should be left to the Corporation; and if it is decided to consider any such proposal, it is not desirable to give it to any part of the city which was not comprised in the

area originally known as 'Chennapuri'. As for the changes of names of streets, suburbs etc. the matter may be left to the local Boards and changes if any proposed by them may be carefully considered from the points of view suggested in the Swamiji's note. So far as the Tamilnad is considered, if any changes are to be made, the Tamil version of the names would be more appropriate except in cases like Conjeevaram, the associations of which are mostly with ~~Sanskx~~ Sanskrit culture and in such cases Sanskrit names would be more appropriate.

Sd/- x x
For Secretary.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department with a gist of Collector's Report.

GIST OF THE COLLECTORS' LETTERS:

1. East Godavari: The names of the following towns may be changed as shown below:

Cocanada	as	Kakinada
Samalkot	as	Chamarlakota
Rajahmundry	as	Rajamahendravaram
Innespeta	as	Veeresalingapuram (after the great Telugu author Kandukuri Veeresalingam; who founded a High School in 'Innispet

2. Madras: "Fort St. George" may be renamed "Fort Shivaji" or 'Fort Coromondal'.

3. Chingleput: "Seven Pagodas" may be changed to 'Mahabalipuram' and 'St. Thomas Mount' may be changed into 'Alandur' as they are now better known by these names.

4. Vizagapatam: It is philologically strange to maintain that proper names should ever have meaning and it would involve a complete revision of language if the names of places, persons etc. were to be given a precise connotation. The historical evolution of names is similarly impossible to establish. In many cases the names represent towns which have grown up recently. The Sanskritisation of names would not result in ~~intelligibility~~ inteligibility and easy pronounciation. The rendering of Indian names into English language will be phonetically difficult and cumbersome. The United States of America after the declaration of Independence did not change the names of their towns which were associated with the English, French or Spanish rulers. Vizagapatam is already proposed to be changed into Vizagapatam which is enough for this District any more change of names would result in unnecessary doubt and ~~and~~ confusion and add to the work of all concerned.

5. West Godavari: The suggestions of the Swamiji are too wide and vague. The Government may consult the District Revenue Officers in regard to the change of names of local places against particular suggestions but the general principles to be laid down in changing names may be referred to a committee of officials and non-officials specially when when there is a danger of our going too far in the matter.

6. Krishna: agrees with the suggestions of the Swamiji and states that it is the concern of the Municipalities to suggest the change of names of towns and petas in their jurisdiction.

P.T.O.

Villages, etc. - Malabar - Name - Change.

C.S.

The anglicised names of places in Malabar District should also be given their original names in the Government records hereafter. Thus Malabar District should be called Malayalam District.

Calicut should be called, Kozhikode
Tellicherry should be called Thalasseri
Palghat to be called Palakad
West Hill to be called Warakkal & etc.

Pub.(Genl-B) Deptt.

Revenue U.O.
Intd.
25-6-48.

The Collector of Malabar may be asked to find out the names of the places so anglicised and send up their correct local names.

Pub.(Gl.B) U.O.2699/48-1 D/25-6-48.

Intd. x x
25/6/48.

Revenue Department.

To L.S.

Please see the minutes of H.M.(Agri.) above.

2. In view of the numerous proposals for change of names of villages, etc., which are being received, this Government are considering the question of appointing a Committee for the purpose of determining revised spelling of names of villages, etc., corrupted due to the influence of the English language. The file was circulated to H.M.(L.R), H.M.(Edn.) and H.Pr. (File C.No.22612 C/48 circulated on 4-6-48). It is understood that the file is now with H.M.(Edn.).

3. The Government of India's letter in the linked file since received (C.No.33720 C/48 regarding the use of the Hunterian system for determining the spelling in Roman character of names of villages, etc.) contains the following observation:--

"The disadvantages of making changes in the names of spellings which have been in common use for hundreds of years would be readily appreciated. However, if such changes were limited to a few instances the difficulties that may arise may be inconsequential, but if the tendency to alter the spelling of names were to become widespread the difficulties would be great and, therefore, the tendency should be discouraged."

4. In view of the Government of India's observation, it is for consideration whether it is desirable to appoint the Committee referred to in para 2 above, or even to issue to a direction to the Collector of Malabar as proposed by H.M.(Agri. at X on p.1 above. Perhaps it will be sufficient to condemn and pass orders on specific cases of corruption of names of villages etc. brought to the notice of the Government.

5. This file may also be circulated, in continuation of File C.No.22612 C/48.

The matter may be discussed by ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ submitting the ~~xxxxx~~ cabinet, if H.M's. are pleased to agree.

Intd. x x
6/7/48.

H.Pr. may decide.

H.M.(L.R)
H.M.(Edn)
H.M.(Agri)
H.Pr.

Intd. x x
18/7/48.

Certain names of towns like Vijayawada and Tiruchirapalli have already been changed. It is enough only if very prominent names are corrected like Hd. Qrs. of Divisions and Districts, Municipalities and etc. A Committee will be cumbersome and would go into every minute name. It is enough if we select the prominent names to be changed. Any how I don't mind discussion at a cabinet meeting.

Intd. x
20.7.

Place before the informal meeting of Ministers.

).P.R.
'8.

To U.S.

Rev. Deptt.

Please see the orders of H.Pr. A draft note for the Informal meeting of the Hon'ble Ministers is submitted for approval.

Intd. x x
2/9 '9/48.

H.M.(L.R).
8/9.

The subject was discussed at the informal meeting of the council of ministers held on 14-10-1948 when the following resolution was passed.

"The changes already made in the names or villages are approved".

Sd/- x x
Principal Private Secretary
to the Hon'ble the Premier.

To U.S.

Please see the notes from page 1 above. The points on which the orders of the Cabinet solicited are:-

(1) whether a Committee may be appointed to examine and suggest changes in the names of places which require changing;

(2) whether it is desirable to restrict such changes generally to a limited number of cases where the corruption due to the association with the English language is indubitable or strongly unpopular;

(3) what policy will be generally followed in this matter. At the informal meeting of the Hon'ble Minister no specific orders on these points have been passed. The Resolution of the Hon'ble Ministers is that

~~X~~ "The changes already made in the names of villages are approved".

But it is submitted that it was only with the approval of H.M.(L.R) and the other concerned H.Ms. that the changes in the names of villages already made were ordered and the question of ratification by the Cabinet of these changes has not been raised. The decision of the Hon'ble Ministers at the informal meeting therefore needs to be clarified before ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ action is taken with reference to Public (General) U.O.Note No.2132/48-1, dated 30-8-48.

For orders.

Intd. O.P.R.
20/10.

H.M.(L.R) Intd. 28/10

It is not necessary now to appoint a committee.

O.P.R.
12/11

To U.S.

Please see the orders in circulation above. It is presumed that the intention of the Government is that no general principle need be laid down in the matter and that each proposal can be dealt with on its merits.

With reference to Public (General) U.O.Note No.2132/48-1, dated 30-8-48 the file may be circulated to H.M.(L.R), H.M.(Edn.) and H.M.(Agri.). The papers may be recorded after their perusal.

fice.

No. of
oposals which
re kept pending
r a decision on
is should now be
t up.

Intd.

C.S.R.
23/11.

H.M.(L.R) x x 5/12

H.M.(Edn) x x 9/12/48.

H.M.(Agri) x x 12/12.

To A.S.III.

Please see the orders in circulation above. The papers may now be

G.O.Ms.No.3004, dated 15th December 1948.

R E C O R D E D.

ABSTRACT.

VILLAGES - Names - Changes - General Question - Papers recorded.

(True copy)

S. Jayasankara
OFFICE ASSISTANT,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

KRVD. 2/2.

6/6/52